

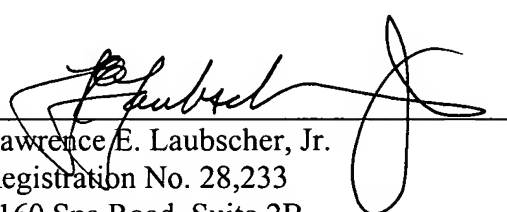
REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 5-16, as amended, are pending herein. The claims have been amended to cancel claims corresponding to those in the parent application No. 10/379,146.

Allowance of claims 1, 2, and 5-16 is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee, Label No. EV 325934792 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 11, 2004.

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